

Message

From: Lindsley, Sarah [Sarah.Lindsley@hud.gov]
Sent: 6/17/2019 9:05:12 PM
To: Pepple, Karl [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=4a4f87fed8f947548975cf6f338f5748-Pepple, Karl]; Wilson, Wenona [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=814514e966ca4a0089be72ffa5a145f0-Wilson, Wenona]
Subject: FW: Warm Springs Funders Summit -- post action update & meeting request
Attachments: 2019.06.12 Funding Summit Agenda FINAL.docx; CTWS Presentation Handout June 12 2019.pdf; Capital Improvements - 2019.05.09 water sewer landfill.pdf; Warm Springs Capital Improvement Funding Spreadsheet Matrix DRAFT 06102019.xlsx; Contact List.xlsx

Hi Karl and Wenona:

I'm forwarding to you two the summary that I wrote up and shared with my HUD colleagues regarding the Warm Springs Funders' Summit and next steps.

Wenona, if you're able to call me when you land in Salt Lake today, I just talked to Karl and I'm hoping we can conference him in, so that we can loop him in on NIPSC next steps related to Warm Springs efforts.

Best,
Sarah

From: Lindsley, Sarah
Sent: Friday, June 14, 2019 3:04 PM
To: Look, Michael S <Michael.S.Look@hud.gov>; Ramirez, Tony <Tony.Ramirez@hud.gov>
Cc: Stewart, Lisa <Lisa.Stewart@hud.gov>; Boyd, David P <David.P.Boyd@hud.gov>
Subject: Warm Springs Funders Summit -- post action update & meeting request

Hello Michael and Tony (and David and Lisa):

I wanted to give you both an update and summary of the Warm Springs Funders Summit that I attended this Wednesday. As you know, I attended this meeting with David Boyd and Lisa Stewart from ONAP; I've cc'd David and Lisa here. I'd like to schedule a follow-up meeting for us all to discuss HUD's next steps. **Would you all let me know your availability for a meeting next Monday – Thursday, June 17-20?**

I am attaching the meeting agenda and a copy of a handout that CTWS distributed at the meeting. I'm also including the Capital Infrastructure Spreadsheet, the spreadsheet including federal funds identified to address the capital infrastructure needs, and the tech team contact list (which doesn't include tribal or state representatives yet). There was a sign in sheet at the meeting and the tribe will send out the list of participants soon; I'll provide that list when I receive it. I estimate there were approximately 40 people in attendance, including a mix of federal staff, state agency staff, CTWS staff and councilmembers, CTWS tribal community members, and one philanthropic organization (Oregon Community Foundation). There was also one member of the "local news media" present at the start of the day. (I did not get his name or media affiliation). In addition, there were staff representing Governor Kate Brown's office, staff representing Senator Ron Wyden, and staff of Representative Greg Walden.

Below, I'm including some details based on notes I took at the meeting. David and Lisa, please feel free to jump in with any additional notes you may want to share!

Current Water Main Break at Shitike Creek

The drinking water line that runs under Shitike Creek developed a leak, contaminating the water supply for the portion of the community south of HWY 26, resulting in a "boil water" notice that was issued on 5/30/2019. The tribe has been

working with IHS engineers and a consultant, Project Delivery Systems, to plan a repair. The cause of the break is linked to a failure in the pressure-reducing valves (PRVs) further up the water main line; the failure of those valves led to increased pressure on the line, which caused the leak. A plan is in place to repair the break by inserting a new section of pipe within the old pipeline and, soon after, replace the PRVs so that the increased pressure on the line will not result in future leaks. A funding plan was identified at a breakout session of the meeting for HUD ICDBG Imminent Threat funds to be used to pay for replacing the PRVs, while tribal funds will pay for the pipeline repair. Work on the pipeline repair is projected to start next week; during the repair there will be a 24-48 hour complete water shut off. The replacement of the PRVs will happen in the near-term, and another water shut-off will have to be scheduled during that replacement. David Boyd was part of the break out session that led to this detailed plan – David, if you have anything to add or if I’ve gotten any of these details wrong, please feel free to jump in.

Water System Overview

Alyssa Macy, the tribe’s COO, presented an overview of the water treatment and distribution system and identified needs.

- The attached presentation handout provides much of the detail that Alyssa shared during her presentation.
- Regarding the water metering project, Alyssa Macy identified installing meters on residences within the Warm Springs Community Water System area as a key next step, and stated that community leaders need to do some thinking and investigation of various fee systems, and lead a conversation with the community. She mentioned the Umatilla tribe as an example of another tribe they are looking at, which adopted a phased in fee structure. She also mentioned that a key capacity need is someone to conduct research on various fee system options that the WS community can consider.
- Over the last year, the tribe has had a sharp uptake in boil water notices, which has given the appearance of worsening conditions. However, it is only in the last year that the tribe has established a reliable system for testing the water and notifying the community of contamination. In reality, the tribe is now aware that leaks have been occurring for many years, without any notice being distributed to the community. So the increase in boil water notices in reality represents an improvement in monitoring and notification, not a decline in the system.
- The boil water notices have a major impact on the community. In addition to the obvious impact of how people use water at home, the notices have led to the closure of the early childhood center and the K-8, impacting employees there and raising questions about whether the tribe can afford to pay administrative leave for those employees when they aren’t working, and creating a childcare problem for families with children who are suddenly out of school. Many businesses, such as the casino, restaurants and coffee shops, etc., also have to close.

Wastewater

Chico Holliday, Water/Wastewater Supervisor, presented on the wastewater system and identified needs. The attached presentation provides much of the detail that Chico shared. One detail to add is that the Capital Improvement Spreadsheet that the tribe provided does not list all of the funding needs related to the wastewater distribution system. The tribe continues to add projects to that list as needs are identified.

Housing

Danielle Wood, the WS Housing Authority Director, gave a brief presentation at the meeting. It was emphasized that the tribe has a housing crisis in addition to the crisis in its water, wastewater and landfill infrastructure. Danielle shared that the HA portfolio includes 178 HUD-subsidized units, 35 tax credit units, and 99 units subsidized by the tribe. She also operates 50 trailer spaces. She has 415 households on her waiting list. Her challenges include the aging of the entire housing inventory and associated costs of maintenance, the high rate of meth contamination (units are tested for meth randomly and at move out and 60% of tests come back positive for meth contamination), and difficulty in hiring skilled tradespeople due to competition with booming construction industry in other parts of the state. She also shared that she is ready to begin new construction on 3 duplexes and the installation of 8 FEMA trailers, but this has been held up because the tribe hasn’t had a building inspector for the last year. After a recent MOU with the county to use a county building inspector, this barrier should be resolved soon. She highlighted her team’s effectiveness in addressing the meth contamination issue, noting that they have received advanced training on how to test and remediate meth contamination and are now able to do that work in house, substantially reducing the costs to the HA. Her future goals

include additional new construction to add more units to her inventory, rehabilitation of currently vacant properties to add to her inventory and improve neighborhoods, and potentially acquiring the “Hamlets” a MF property near the Kah-nee-ta Resort. She also stated that the tribe is applying for a grant from the Meyer Memorial Foundation to conduct a housing plan that would incorporate community input. Overcrowding is a significant issue currently and there is need for new housing stock that meets the needs of young people and young families.

Landfill

Russell Graham, tribal sanitarian, spoke about the landfill system and infrastructure needs. The Capital Infrastructure worksheet includes funding needs for remediation of the existing landfill at Dry Creek (approx. \$26 million). The landfill is unlined and does not meet current standards; there has also been illegal dumping of hazardous materials, primarily by people from off reservation (as captured on video footage). In addition, there is a need to replace trash trucks. The tribe currently has 3 trash pick up trucks, but only 1 is operable due to high cost of repair; they would like to purchase 2 new trucks at a cost of about \$500K (this is not on the capital infrastructure sheet). The tribe is applying for a settlement from VW that could help cover this cost. The sanitary system is also understaffed; Russell has a staff of 3 but to meet industry standards for the size of the system, should have a staff of 8. The tribe does not have fees for residential trash collection, which limits tribal funds to operate and maintain the system.

Staffing Needs

Additional staff capacity to help with grant-writing, community outreach & engagement, policy research and analysis, and other planning activities is necessary to help the tribe attract and manage additional funds. (I brought up Americorp VISTA as a source of capacity for this and have begun a conversation with the Oregon CNCS office to get a little more information to share with the tribe. I also mentioned the DOD Innovative Readiness Training program as a source of labor for construction projects, that could potentially be used on any major upcoming water/sewer rebuilding project, to help reduce labor costs.)

Funding Plan & Next Steps

Prior to the meeting, the federal funders shared funding sources for each of the activities on the Capital Infrastructure spreadsheet (see attached). At the meeting, each of the federal agencies as well as the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, Business Oregon, Oregon Housing, and the Oregon Community Foundation spoke about the funding and other technical resources they could provide.

The tribe is currently working out their priorities and phasing of projects that are already on the capital infrastructure list. They could use assistance from the funders on determining which funding sources could be put together to address specific needs, and any caveats as to layering and leveraging funds that they need to consider.

Several tribal councilmembers spoke to remind the federal agencies of the historical trust responsibility of the federal government per the 1855 treaty whereby the federal government committed to providing certain forms of support to the tribe in exchange for the ceding of tribal lands. A key theme was urging federal partners to act as quickly as possible, treating the tribes needs as the emergency that it is, and acting as quickly as we would to address an emergency on non-tribal lands. Though councilmembers expressed gratitude to the funders for gathering, they spoke of making sure it was not “all thunder, no rain.” They asked us to make sure that the summit results in real progress. As one councilmember said, “make your processes known so we can understand them” and benefit from the resources available.

The tribe asked the funders to form sub-committees around each of the 5 areas: drinking water, waste water, housing, landfill and staffing/planning needs. I volunteered to get the ball rolling on the first meeting of the sub-committee focused on housing; I want to talk to you all about HUD’s role on this and other sub-committees going forward. Annette Liebe from the Governor’s office will convene the sub-committee on wastewater, Bruce (not sure of last name) from the tribe will convene the Water group, Greg Sweeland from the OR Dept of Environmental Quality will lead the landfill committee and Wenona will organize the staffing/planning group.

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